

Message Text

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67

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 PM-03 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

AF-06 /035 W

----- 035618

R 251143Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2339

INFO CSAF WASHDC

21AF MCGUIRE AB NJ

AF/ACA DENVER COLO

MAC SCOTT AFB ILL

OASD/ISA/FMRA/NESA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MASS, EG

SUBJECT: OVERFLIGHT FEES FOR USG AIRCRAFT

REF: CAIRO 0327

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, EMBASSY AGREED THAT APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE TO GOE FOR PURPOSE OF SECURING EXEMPTION FROM OVERFLIGHT FEES IMPOSED ON USG AIRCRAFT.
2. ISSUE HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH GENERAL YEHIA SHINNAWAI, CHAIRMAN OF CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY, WHO APPEARS QUITE FAMILIAR WITH INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE IN SUCH MATTERS. SHINNAWI, WITH WHOM WE HAVE HAD EXCELLENT RELATIONS, SAID THAT EGYPT WOULD NOT BE INTERESTED IN EXEMPTING USG AIRCRAFT SINCE PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY FOR GOE AIRCRAFT, BASIS FOR SUCH ARRANGEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL USAGE, WOULD BE TOTALLY MEANINGLESS; EGYPTIANS WILL NOT BE OVERFLYING US IN FORESEE-ABLE FUTURE.
3. EMBOFF MENTIONED THAT THERE WAS POSSIBILITY NOTE MIGHT BE SENT TO MFA ON SUBJECT SINCE IT WAS A MATTER OF SOME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCERN TO USG. SHINNAWI SAID IN THAT EVENT NOTE WOULD

COME TO HIM FOR ACTION AND HE WOULD CERTAINLY STRONGLY
RECOMMEND THAT NO EXEMPTION BE GRANTED SINCE,
"WE NEED THE MONEY."

4. DAO HAS NOW RECEIVED BILLS FOR JUNE-AUGUST 1974 OVER-
FLIGHT AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| JUNE | LE 1,182.52 (\$2,128.52) |
| JULY | LE 208.29 (\$274.93) |
| AUGUST | LE 39.19 (\$70.55) |

5. ADDRESSEES WILL NOTE THAT THE AMOUNT BILLED HAS
DIMINISHED EACH MONTH, EVEN THOUGH THERE HAS NOT BEEN
A CONCOMITANT REDUCTION IN OVERFLIGHTS INSOFAR AS WE
ARE AWARE.

6. WHILE AMOUNT CHARGED IS SMALL AND EMBASSY WOULD
NOT LIKE TO ENGAGE IN POSSIBLE UNSUCCESSFUL PURSUIT OF MATTER
TO DETRIMENT OF ITS EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH GENERAL
SHINNAWI, WE BELIEVE THAT FAILURE TO OBSERVE PRINCIPLE OF
TREATMENT OF STATE AIRCRAFT COULD CONSTITUTE UNDESIRABLE
PRECEDENT.

7. THEREFORE, WE PROPOSE TO SEND DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO MFA
SEEKING EXEMPTION FROM OVERFLIGHT CHARGES. PRIOR TO DOING
SO, HOWEVER, WE WISH TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THIS PRINCIPLE
IS OBSERVED BY OTHER COUNTRIES IN REGION. IF THIS WERE NOT
THE CASE, WE WOULD BE INCLINED RECOMMEND PAYMENT IN ORDER
TO AVOID POSSIBILITY OF THIS MINOR IRRITATION IN OUR RELATIONS
WITH EGYPTIAN CAA.

8. DEPARTMENT COMMENTS WOULD BE APPRECIATED.
EILTS

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NNN

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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